



Today's Truth

October 24, 2005

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This newsletter originates at the OCFO-NOLA Grand Prairie location. Some of this information is applicable to all NFC employees, regardless of their alternative work site location. Discounts and businesses, when named, are only available in the Grand Prairie area unless otherwise noted. It is distributed using the GroupWise email group for the alternative work sites. If you are not receiving this newsletter, email GWADMIN with your name and site location.

Compensatory Time (Comp Time) For Travel

Compensatory time for travel is time off that may be earned by an employee for time spent in a travel status away from the employee's official duty station when such time is not otherwise compensable. To qualify for this purpose, travel must be for work purposes. Travel status only includes the time actually spent traveling between the official duty station and a temporary duty station, or between two temporary duty stations, and the usual waiting time that precedes or interrupts such travel. Employees traveling to their homes do not receive comp time for travel.

FEMA Assistance - Part 2

In an attempt to assist employees in need of transitional housing, we are gathering more information. If you have applied for a FEMA trailer, please e-mail the answers to the following questions to Cindy Suarez as soon as possible at cindy.suarez@usda.gov.

1. Name of FEMA Registrant
2. FEMA Registration Number
3. Address that the FEMA Registrant registered Under
4. Address of the property where Registrant wants the trailer
5. Does the Registrant own the property?
6. If Registrant does not own the property, will owner provide a right of entry?
7. Confirmation that Electric, Sewer, and Water is available on the site
8. Contact Telephone Number(s)
9. Do you need child care? If yes, for how many children and what are their ages?
10. Which Parish/County would you prefer for transitional housing if not on your own property?
11. If schooling for a dependent child is a need, please identify the level(s) needed (pre, grammar, high, college).

Today's Truth is
distributed by the
HRMS Staff in Grand
Prairie, TX



If you know of other employees who have applied for FEMA housing, but haven't contacted Cindy, please ask them to provide her with the information below by e-mail.

If you have not applied for a FEMA trailer and are in need of transitional housing, you are encouraged to apply. The telephone number to FEMA is 1-800-621-3362. The application process takes about 15-20 minutes.

NFC is not applying for FEMA trailers for employees. You must apply for the trailer by calling the above telephone number.

REMINDER: The deadline to submit loan applications to the SBA is October 28, 2005. This is part of the FEMA Process. Don't let the deadline pass you by.

TSP Information

The Thrift Savings Plan has loosened its rules regarding financial hardship in-service withdrawals for those affected by Hurricane Katrina. Beginning immediately, the TSP will accept requests for a second financial hardship in-service withdrawal from victims of Hurricane Katrina. Hurricane Katrina victims may submit a Financial Hardship In-Service Withdrawal Request to the TSP to obtain funds even if has been fewer than six months since they have taken a financial hardship in-service withdrawal (FHISW). Click here for more information. The below link provides the requirements for obtaining a second financial hardship withdrawal.

<http://www.tsp.gov/hurr/FHISW.html>

IRS Tax Relief

The IRS has posted information regarding tax relief for victims of Hurricane Katrina. This information can be found at the following website.

<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0%2c%2cid=147085%2c00.html>

How To Get Rid of Mold

The National Organization of Remediators and Mold Inspectors has some great info on mold and how to get rid of it. They provide a list of certified local inspectors and are available to answer any questions you may have. Their website is www.NORMI.ORG